

In today's Gospel reading, Luke 8:5-15, we hear the Lord's parable of the sower. The parable explains how depending on where the seed fell, it was either trodden under foot, devoured by birds, withered away growing on the rock, choked by thorns, or if placed in good soil, grew and yielded greatly. This parable, Jesus Christ tells us is a metaphor about the Word of God being like a seed. It is in the good soil, in an "honest and good heart" that this seed—the Word, will "bring forth fruit with patience."

Dearest ones, as a plant grows from a seed with good soil, water, sunlight, patience, time and love, so we too must grow closer to God through His Word! Jesus Christ is the Sower, the seed is the Word of God, and our hearts is the ground. How is the soil of our heart? Is it rich and ready to receive God's teachings? Or is it sometimes hard like a rock? Or closed up to Him and Scripture falls away?

Our relationship with God grows throughout our lives and is a living process with our Creator that takes patience to cultivate. Let us pray and strive to maintain a supple loving heart open to God's Word. Our hearts will be fertile ground to be sowed if we center it in Jesus Christ. Let us pray to receive this Word joyfully so that we become instruments of God in the world, giving all honor, worship and glory to Him in the Highest; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever, amen.